

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION

39

March 4, 2003

**FROM:** RUDY LOPEZ, Director  
Department of Behavioral Health

**SUBJECT:** CONTRACT WITH PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CORPORATION FOR  
PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Rescind Contract No. 02-948 with Lina E. Shuhaibar, M.D. effective March 7, 2003.
2. Approve contract with Lina Shuhaibar, Inc., for the period March 8, 2003 through June 30, 2004 in the amount of \$353,129 for psychiatric services.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** DBH requires the services of specialized medical personnel for the treatment of mentally ill adults and children. Contractors are needed to perform physician directed mental health services at DBH clinics and Institutes of Mental Disease facilities (IMD). An IMD is a Medi-Cal nursing facility that provides services for a severely and persistently mentally ill population whose functioning level is below levels which can be treated in a DBH clinic. The mental health services provided to residents of the County of San Bernardino are enhanced by the expertise of these physician contractors.

The Board of Supervisors approved Agreement #02-948 with Lina Shuhaibar, M.D. on September 10, 2002 (Item #065) in the amount of \$740,518 for the period September 11, 2002 through June 30, 2005 to provide child psychiatric services. Dr. Shuhaibar has since established her medical corporation and is no longer practicing as an individual doctor. Dr. Shuhaibar has requested to change her contractual arrangement with the County from an employment agreement to a medical corporation. Under this new contract, Dr. Shuhaibar will continue to provide these services in DBH's outpatient clinics as a Board Certified Child Psychiatrist at the same hourly reimbursement rate of \$92.72 as her previous contract.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** This Contract has been reviewed and approved as to form by Deputy County Counsel, Charles J. Larkin, on January 30, 2003. This item has also been reviewed by County Administrative Office, Beatriz Valdez, Administrative Analyst on February 19, 2003.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The total cost for this contract is \$353,129. The cost is not to exceed \$88,946 for FY 02/03 and was included in the department's FY 02/03 budget. The cost for FY 03/04 is not to exceed \$264,183 and will be included in the department's proposed budget for that year. This agreement is funded through a combination of insurance reimbursements, State and Federal funds. There is no local cost to the County.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S):** All

**PRESENTER:** Rudy Lopez, Director (909) 387-7024

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors